

The Inside Scoop.... ...of OJJ

Vol. 1, No. 1, November 2008

Mission

The Office of Juvenile Justice protects the public by providing safe and effective individualized services to youth, who will become productive, law-abiding citizens.



Dr. Mary L. Livers, Deputy Secretary

Welcome to *The Inside Scoop...of OJJ*

Welcome to the first issue of *The Inside Scoop...of OJJ*, a monthly newsletter designed to communicate with and about OJJ staff. We will present information about our people, agency activities, items of interest, – things we need to know and things that are nice to know about the people who make OJJ a great agency.

Good communication includes various ways to improve our outreach. This newsletter will be an addition to the other communications methods we are using to keep you up to date. I pledge to keep you informed about agency happenings and I mean to use every method possible to do so.

This is your newsletter. While it's produced at Central Office, we can't be everywhere and know everything that goes on throughout the agency. We need your input. Each regional office and facility has a "reporter" – a contact who will send us ideas, pictures, information about activities in your office, awards staff receive, great things that staff, co-workers and your kids are doing. Please tell your reporter what's going on, so they can pass it along. Everyone on the OJJ team should feel ownership in *The Inside Scoop...of OJJ*. It's for you, by you and about you.

The *Inside Scoop...of OJJ* will not be printed, but will be distributed electronically. Of course you can print it out to read or file. And - please forward it to staff who do not have computer access.

OJJ's Internal and External Newsletter Naming Contest Winners Announced



Kristen McKee



Kim Mims

Director of Education Kim B. Mims named the internal newsletter - *The Inside Scoop...of OJJ*. Mrs. Mims served as OJJ's Family Ombudsman for a year before being named to her present position in October. Read more about her in the story below.

Kristen McKee, PPO2 in the Shreveport Regional Office, named the external newsletter – *OJJ Today*. Kristen has been with OJJ since July 2007. While in college at LSU-Shreveport, Kristen interned at the Caddo Parish Probation Office and knew that she wanted to put her degree in Criminal Justice to work with kids.

She is about to start graduate school at the LA Tech's Barksdale Campus, taking evening classes in pursuit of a Masters in Guidance and Counseling. "I want to learn more about how to relate better to our kids, and deal with their issues," Kristen said.

"Most of our kids have background issues or they would not act out the way they do. It will be beneficial to better understand and better communicate with our youth."

Kristen grew up dancing and has taken dance classes most of her life. She enjoys shopping and spending time with her husband and family.

"I love my job," Kristen said. "It's what I've always wanted to do."

The two winners will receive a handful of prizes...starting with dinner with Dr. Livers. They will also receive a framed copy of the first issue of the newsletter they named, a dozen cupcakes from Undersecretary James Bueche's wife's company Sweet Wishes, and a family-sized portion of Assistant Secretary Prince Gray's famous Creole Etouffee,

The contest to name both newsletters saw landslide victories – both *The Inside Scoop...of OJJ* and *OJJ Today* were the overwhelming winners. Selection was completely anonymous – even the selection committee was unaware of who submitted proposed names until the winning entries were identified.

OJJ Organization Chart

OJJ has a new "org chart." Here's the breakdown:

Deputy Secretary Mary Livers

Undersecretary James Bueche supervises the Deputy Undersecretary, Accounting, Human Resources, Budget, Purchasing, Contracts/Grants and Information Technology.

Assistant Secretary Prince Gray supervises Carolyn Lewis, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community-Based Services (field services, regional probation and parole offices) and Philippe Magloire, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Facilities (Bridge City, Jetson and Swanson Centers for Youth).

Chief of Staff Marlyn Goins-McCants manages special projects and program initiatives, and supervises public information, the family ombudsman, staff development and volunteer services.

Acting Chief of Operations/Deputy Assistant Secretary Ellyn (Barbor) Peterson supervises Investigative Services and CQIS/Quality Assurance and Compliance.

General Counsel Martha Morgan supervises the Legal Division's attorneys and paralegal support.



Staff Spotlight

Spotlight on...Johnny Qualls, Alexandria Regional Manager

Johnny Qualls is all about family. And he has a large family since he counts both home and work. Johnny sets a huge goal for himself – what makes him tick is making people happy.

“I want everyone to be happy, but sometimes you just can’t do it when you’re

the boss,” Johnny says. With a family including wife and children aged 25, 21, 19 and 14, plus a grandchild, Johnny probably can’t keep them all happy all the time, but he strives to do his best.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Carolyn Lewis spotlighted Johnny because of his extraordinary service during the hurricane emergency period. While Ms. Lewis praised him for going to Jetson along with members of the Alexandria Regional Office staff to work alongside the JCY and BCCY staff, as well as doing “manual labor” to help clean up the Lake Charles office when it was devastated by hurricane floodwaters, Johnny downplayed his role. “We just supported Jetson when they needed it, and in Lake Charles, we just finished what (Regional Manager) Ann Vick started. We were just being part of the family,” he said.

With a degree in General Studies from LSU-A, with concentrations in business, psychology and history, Johnny went to work for the Office of Family Services, where his supervisor guided him toward Juvenile Services. He came to OJJ in 1999 as a Probation and Parole Officer 1, moving up through the ranks until being named Regional Manager last year.

A fan of country and classic rock music, Johnny likes outdoor activities – sports, hunting and fishing. When he’s not outdoors he enjoys reading about his favorite pursuits.

“I always dreamed of being in some type of law enforcement,” Johnny said. “But it wasn’t until I came to this agency that I realized that I really wanted to work with

kids. Working for OJJ is just where I'm intended to be."

What motivates Johnny Qualls to get out of bed every morning? "I enjoy life," he said. "I like to be busy and useful. And – we don't work for an office, we work for a family." Alexandria Regional Officer Probation and Parole Supervisor Clay Dupuy describes Johnny as "An inspiration to all that work with him."

Deputy Undersecretary Ruth Johnson Leaves OJJ



Deputy Undersecretary Ruth Johnson has moved on a new challenge as Undersecretary of the Department of Social Services. She has been with OYD/OJJ since 2005. Ruth worked to create our Office of Management and Finance and assisted in developing the Human Resources Department, when we were separated from adult corrections. Before joining OYD Ruth served in the Department of Corrections and the Division of Administration's Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting.

We recognize that Ruth's hard work and dedication to re-shaping our agency also put her in line for this great promotion. We wish Ruth well in her new endeavor, and thank her for her vital contribution to OJJ.

Ombudsman Kim Mims Named Director of Education



Family Ombudsman Kim Mims has been named OJJ Director of Education. Mrs. Mims came to OJJ as Family Ombudsman in August 2007. She will oversee educational programs and activities for the secure care facilities and supervise the Education Specialists who work with non-secure youth.

"Mrs. Mims brings unique skills to this position," Dr. Livers said. "She is a veteran educator experienced with at-risk and special needs youth. As our Family Ombudsman she gained firsthand experience working with our youth and their families and can move our educational programming forward. I look forward to working with her in this vital position."

"I know Kim Mims to be a fair, caring and conscientious 'people person'," Dr. Livers continued. "She is a good listener, and I have seen her accomplish a great deal. She's a go-getter - these are qualities that I see in her, that OJJ can use in a major leadership role."

Mrs. Mims is trained in LA MOD. She has 20 years of experience as an educator at LaSalle Elementary School in East Baton Rouge Parish, from classroom teacher to principal. In her last year as principal at LaSalle, the school posted the district's highest academic growth under the state's School and District Accountability System.

Mrs. Mims is a Baton Rouge native with a Bachelor's degree in marketing and business, Master of Education, Specialist in Reading and plus-30 in education, all from Southern University.



Daron Brown Named Jetson Director

Daron P. Brown has been named Director of Jetson Center for Youth.

"I have utmost confidence in Daron's ability to lead Jetson in the right direction that will ensure successful outcomes for the youth in our care," said Dr. Livers. "We have seen many positive changes at Jetson over the past few months, due to Director Brown's leadership."

Director Brown has been with Jetson for 10 years. He arrived at Jetson in November 1998 and came up through the ranks to become facility director. "I'm very goal-oriented and I set expectations and goals for myself," he said.

"I bring a positive attitude and a democratic leadership style to my work," Director Brown said. "I believe in involving staff in day-to-day decision making, and in leading by example. People work better when they have a sense of ownership in their job. Teamwork is the key element to making the process work. We're all a family. Everyone who works for OJJ is part of the family no matter what office they work in."

"We must offer every kid in our care the best service we can deliver," Director Brown continued. "Our goal is for our kids to become productive citizens when they get out. I am all about taking care of our kids."

OJJ Bids Farewell to Recent Retirees



Deputy Secretary Mary Livers congratulates Sandra Banks on her recent retirement as Central Office HR Specialist.

October saw four longtime OJJ staff members retire. We wish each of them the best as they begin this new phase of life.

- **Sandra Banks**, Human Resource Specialist at Central Office, retired with 28 years of service.
- **Deborah Brannen**, Shreveport Regional Office, PPO2, retired with 29 years of service.

- **Josie Johnston**, Central Office Accountant 3, retired after 35 years of service.
- **Stephen Snow**, Manager of the Shreveport Regional Office, retired with 30 years of service.

Alexandria Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **Donna Desoto**, who was recently promoted from PPO2 to PPO3.
- **Angelic Johnson McCray**, PPO1, who recently married Purcell McCray.

Trinity Adams and Angelic McCray will attend the Alexandria Police Academy next February. A number of staff members are teaming up with the two as they prepare for the Academy. They are running one to three miles, twice a week after hours, to help with weight control and build morale and team spirit.

Baton Rouge Regional Office

Proving that working with OJJ youth is much more than an 8-4:30 job, the Baton Rouge OJJ family helped one of our youth and his family furnish their home after it was burglarized, leaving nothing of value. The family was so appreciative they wrote a letter thanking the office for all their help:

*To Ms. Stefanie, Ms. Miller and all the people in the Baton Rouge office:
Words just cannot describe how appreciative we are for everything you have done for us. From the household things,*

the bedding, the clothing, the beautiful couch, to the rides to and from the doctors and dentist, and Ms. Miller for doing our laundry. You all are angels from heaven. I will forever be indebted to you all. You just don't know how much George and I appreciate everything you all have done for us. You all are very kind and caring people and I really don't know what we would have done if you all hadn't done what you did for us. You all have been a true blessing. Again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

*God bless each of you,
George and Mom*

Bridge City Center for Youth

Congratulations to:

Quarterly Employee Award winners, who have a positive effect towards meeting our mission: assisting our agency in providing safe and effective individualized services for our youth.

Administrative
Education
Supervisor
Youthcare Worker
Support
Treatment

Charlene Gordon
Trenisha Stanislaus
Lance Daniels
Louis Evans
Sterling White
Dorothy Favorite

Staff Honored for Exemplary Service during the Hurricane Emergency

BCCY staff evacuated youth to Jetson as a precaution for Hurricane Gustav. During the 11 day stay at JCY, several staff members made notable contributions to our mission, helping to distinguish the silver lining from the clouds. OJJ presented awards to the following staff:

Most notable feat by a Security Staff person: **Charlita Coleman**, Corr. Cadet

Most notable feat by Administration Support Staff: **Monica Darby**, Adm. Coordinator

Most notable feat by Administrative Staff Person: **Kim Hampton**, HR Analyst

Most notable feat by Treatment Staff Person: **Tamara Cotton**, Social Service Counselor

Most Humorous Staff Person during storm period: **Robert Scott**, Corr. Major

Most Humorous Act of the Week: **Corey Baker**, Youth Care Worker

Biggest Eater: **Louis Evans**, Corr. Sergeant

Most Talkative: **Robin Parker**, Youth Care Worker

Greatest Multi-tasker: **Jeleta Jordan**, Corr. Sergeant

Most Upbeat Staff Person: **Johnny Thornton**, Corr. Major

Most Creative Person during the storm: **Mary Gatlin**, Corr. Major

During the recent CQIS Case Management Audit, BCCY earned a 99% compliance score. Hats off to the Social Service staff who are working through the mission and focusing on the vision of our agency to assist youth in redirecting their lives toward responsible citizenship.

The Culinary Arts Program will soon relocate to BCCY. **Chef Ron Sonnier** has transferred from JCY and with the administration, will transform the former dining hall facility into a practical learning environment.

Central Office

Pink October Events Raise Money to Help Stamp Out Breast Cancer

Central Office staff raised funds and brought awareness to the need for breast cancer research by celebrating Pink October. Dr. Livers' assistant **Nita Franklin-Shanklin** headed up a team including **Shirley Jackson, Clarett Blount, Shaeki Shanklin, Katherine Abrams, Glenda Ratcliff, Gail Miller, NyKisha Franklin, Marvel Adams, Kimberly Jones, Katie Kirkpatrick, Terri Scott, Suzie Durrett** and **Phyllis Martello**. So far they have raised over \$600.00. Special thanks to **Glenda Ratcliff** who created beautiful door ribbons, as well as a sumptuous gift basket raffled off and won by JCY Assistant Director Frances Bailey. Sundae Thursday was a hit with staff from all over the State Police compound who indulged in yummy ice cream sundaes. An Awareness Wall offered all staff an opportunity to memorialize friends and loved ones who have either survived or succumbed to breast cancer.

Congratulations to **Policy Planner Diana Williamson**, who recently earned the CPTP Professional Certificate. Diana completed a number of professional development courses, covering topics such as best practices, ethics and effective interviewing techniques, followed by a tough three-day written and oral exam. She will be honored at a graduation ceremony to be held by the Comprehensive Public Training Program.



We are sorry to say goodbye to PPO **Brenda Gainey** and WAE **Jennifer Howser**, who left OJJ last month. We will miss them both and wish them the best in the future.

Hammond Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **PPO Mark Davis**, who was recently promoted to PPO3.
- **Janice Lewis, AC2**, who celebrated 36 years of service in October.
- Employees of the Quarter Awards, 2008 second quarter, include **PPS Dawnita Hodge Brister**, Supervisor of the Quarter, and **WAE Jennifer Howser**-Administrative Support Staff. Congratulations to both for their outstanding contributions.
- **PPO Kevin Kulivan** and his wife, Amy, who welcomed their new baby girl, Ava Mae into the world last month. Ava and her 4 year old sister, Coleen, are pictured below.

Jetson Center for Youth

Awards Ceremony Honors Outstanding Contributions



Awards are presented to James Spears, top, and JoAnn King, bottom, by Director Daron Brown, Deputy Secretary Mary Livers, Assistant Secretary Prince Gray and Human Resources Director Gwen Jones.

Hurricane Gustav allowed Jetson staff to pull together as a team. Jetson staff made sure people were as comfortable as possible,

and assisted BCCY staff during the storm and its aftermath. JCY staff were recognized for their outstanding work at an employee appreciation ceremony. Deputy Secretary Dr. Mary Livers and the executive team from Central Office presented the awards to the staff. The following employees received special recognition for their outstanding service during the storm and its aftermath.

Most notable feat by a Security Staff person:
Derrick Anderson, Corr. Sergeant

Most notable feat by Administration Support Staff: **Latrice Bracken**, HR Analyst

Most notable feat by Administrative Staff
Person: **Robert Young**, HVAC/Control Tech Mst.

Most notable feat by Treatment Staff Person:
Lawrence Legard, Social Worker

Most notable Food Services: **Charles Cave**,
Corr. Dietetics Manager

Most Humorous Act of Storm Week: **Larry Shropshire**, Corr. Major

Biggest Eater: **Louis North**, Deputy Director

Most Talkative: **Melvin Carter**, Corr.
Sergeant-Master

Greatest Multi-tasker: **JoAnn King**, Corr.
Major

Most Upbeat Staff person: **James Spears**,
Corr. Lt. Colonel

Most Creative Person during the storm:
Jewel Veal, Corr. Sergeant-Master

Director Daron Brown commented on each staff person who received an award.

- **Derrick Anderson** rose to the top by making sure that Area 3 and BCCY youth and staff were properly cared for. He was responsible for BCCY during its stay at Jetson.
- **Latrice Bracken** showed up on Sunday with her staff and their suitcases. The HR staff pulled their resources together and worked hard from 3 p.m. Sunday til 11 a.m. Monday to input the correct time into the system.
- **Robert Young** worked tirelessly before the storm to prepare the campus, and countless hours after the hurricane. His ability to lead by example was noticeable. Two days after the hurricane all debris was removed and everything was back to normal. Without his leadership this would not have been possible.
- **Lawrence Legard** made sure that all youth were able to contact their families. He walked the entire campus to help youth make phone calls.
- **Charles Cave** had a prevailing attitude: “when do you want it done.”
- **Larry Shropshire** kept everything upbeat. He was very supportive and asked few questions. He made sure everyone was on task. As the bus driver he was responsible for transporting youth all over the state.

- **Lewis North** was the “taster” and made sure everyone ate. He assisted wherever needed. He was known as the handyman. Director North mopped the floor in Sunrise and carried trash to the dumpster.
- **Melvin Carter** is well known as the cook. He reported back to work early from vacation because he wanted to make sure that the staff was taken care of and he never complained.
- **JoAnn King** acted as Safety Inspector and Multi-tasker, responsible for anything needed. She reported back to work two days early, and took pictures before and after the storm. She placed all the pictures on disks, labeled the disks and made several copies for the leadership team.
- **James Spears** has a great attitude – his attitude is always “when?” He showed commitment to the vision, displayed noticeable leadership and worked as a team player.
- **Jewel “Mama” Veal** worked tirelessly for countless hours at the employee shelter, taking care of food, supplies, and mattresses, etc., without complaint.

Lafayette/Opelousas Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **PPO1s Beth Broussard and Jody Osmer**, who both graduated from the St. Martin Sheriff’s Office POST Academy in October. Both did well in the academy and we are extremely happy to have them back.

OJJ Success Story

Some say our success stories are few and far between, especially for our secure custody cases. Here is one success story. A 16-year-old client (whom we'll call Kaleb) had been receiving services while on supervised probation for several years. At one point he was being seen, supervised, and serviced by two OJJ PPOs, two city court diversion program staff, an OMH Drug Court/ADAC counselor, a Gulf Coast tracker and a G.C. mentor, and a CADENCE Youth Re-Entry Program worker, - eight professionals - in an attempt to prevent his removal from the home and community. (We really can say we tried the "It takes a village approach!") OJJ's PPOs even helped this troubled youngster start his own lawn care business by providing him with a lawn mower and promotional flyers.

Unfortunately, none of this seemed to improve his behavior and social performance. Kaleb was failing the 9th grade, and having behavior problems at school. His delinquency actually escalated during this time, involving some quite

serious offenses. For his own safety and the safety of society, the court finally placed the youth in secure custody.

Kaleb ended up at Jetson. But within just six months he had obtained his GED. And at the review hearing a few months later, the JCY staff noted to the court that Kaleb was one of only two offenders in the entire population to earn the privilege of leaving the campus for work detail. Ten months later, he is entering the Transitional Living Program in Lake Charles -- a much more mature young man with genuine hope for a productive future and potential for success in society. Due to his accomplishments at JCY, his self-esteem and self-confidence have been heightened.

This is a case where a client actually benefitted from being placed in state custody in one of our intensive residential programs, for his own good and the good of the community. Indeed it appears as though that is exactly what happened as a result.

Steve Neef

PPO 3/J, Lafayette OJJ

Lake Charles Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **Monet Newman**, who was promoted to a PPO3/J in October, and recently gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Elaina Clair.
- **PPS Melissa Cross** on the recent birth of her handsome baby boy, Jackson Benjamin.

- **PPO Garrick Chambers**, who will complete the POST Academy this month.
- New Social Worker **Janice Bray-Manuel**, such a nice addition to our office.

Hurricane Ike may have flooded our office and destroyed all of our case records, but all employees' homes and families are okay. Kudos to all Lake Charles OJJ staff members who assisted in the move to the temporary office. We also want to thank those from other OJJ offices, specifically **Alexandria Regional Manager Johnny Qualls**, who travelled from other areas of the state to assist us in the aftermath. Heavy lifting and getting hands dirty were involved. Finally, we want to express appreciation to **RM Ann Vick** for being our fearless leader through TWO major, devastating hurricanes.

Monroe Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **PPO 3 Jennifer Perkins** successfully completed the annual POST Firearms Instructor Recertification.
- **PPO I Joel McNair** has been elected president of his POST Academy class, and scheduled to graduate next month.
- Three officers who were promoted to PPO3: **Donald Hamler, David McMillan, and Patrick Cooper.**

- **PPO2 Joseph Black's** marriage to Ninanette Black. The Monroe office celebrated honored them with a wedding shower.
- Welcome to new **PPO1 Cheryl Pringle**.

Natchitoches Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **Monica Breedlove**, Administrative Coordinator 3, Support Staff of the Quarter.
- **PPS Monique LaCour** and **PPO Simon Sarpy** have both completed the Supreme Court Drug Court training necessary to be core members of the Drug Court committee.

Service Coordination Training began in October, using the Ware Youth Center in Coushatta for training. The 21 training modules that Juvenile Justice employees are tested on range from safety to placement of youth. The training is conducted by staff members from several OJJ Districts and Central Office.

Youth in area group homes are writing letters to veterans as a Veterans Day remembrance. Natchitoches OJJ & Shreveport OJJ staff members will deliver the letters to the LA War Veterans' Home in Bossier City. Staff from Natchitoches and Shreveport OJJ offices will participate in Veterans' Day activities in the area.

New Orleans Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **Paula Kilbourne, PPO3**, Employee of the Quarter.
- **PPO2 Lemoyne Reine** and wife Lisa on celebrating 25 years of marriage and renewing their vows this month.
- **PO Stanley Schofield** is a well-known motivational speaker whose speeches have impacted lives in a most positive and profound way. Stanley had the opportunity to make presentations at two outstanding events:
 - the New Era Track Banquet honoring recent winners at the annual AAU National Track Championships held in Detroit, MI.
 - the West New Orleans Lady Pride Banquet and Award program honoring outstanding AAU basketball participants.
- Welcome back to **Daria Melder PPO2**. Daria is a former employee who has returned to continue serving the youth of OJJ.

Shreveport Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **Kristi Martin** - the Shreveport Region welcomed Kristi Martin into the Regional Manager's position by awarding her Employee of the Month. Kristi made a grand

entrance, stepping into her new position with confidence and making positive changes for the office. Shreveport is glad to have you!

- **Natalie Pope** was named Employee of the Month. Natalie has demonstrated exemplary effort in assisting the youth she supervises and is an extraordinary asset to the Shreveport Office. She is a team player and a positive role model.
- **PPS Mitchell Lane**, who was promoted to Probation Officer Supervisor.
- **Jan Crain** on her new position as Program Specialist.
- **Charles Davis**, was recently promoted to Probation & Parole Officer. Charles has served as a transport officer for the Shreveport Region for some time. Part of his duties will be to continue coordinating transportation, which he does so well.
- **PPO Steve Martino** and his wife Stacey welcomed a beautiful baby girl into the world in October. Meagan Sophia weighed 6 lbs. 11 oz.
- We are pleased to welcome new **PPOs Fabreca Robinson, Todd Carlise**, and **Regina Rye** to the Shreveport Office.
- **Mary Pace** will retire this month. Mary started with Office of Youth Development in 1998, working her way up to Administrative

Coordinator IV and managing the Shreveport Office. Mary plans to spend time with family, work on arts and crafts, organize around the house, and work in her garden. All of us in the Shreveport OJJ would like to express our gratitude to Mary for her dedication and service to our office. She will be truly missed!

Shreveport OJJ, along with Rutherford House for Boys, Joy Home, Hope Youth Ranch, Cool Springs of Logansport, and Red River Marine Institute will assist the LA War Veteran's Home with their Veteran's Day Celebration. Youth will assist veterans in the parade, set up for the day's events, and serve food.

Swanson Center for Youth

Congratulations to:

- **Director Jerry Ward** - the proud grandfather of Jaxyn (pronounced Jackson) Tiana Moy, a bouncing baby girl was born to Jerrie and Trandon Moy of Bentonville, Arkansas. Jaxyn weighed 7 lbs., 4oz. Her mother is an IT Specialist for the Walmart Main Office and her father is a supervisor for the Bentonville Detention Center.
- **Vincent Butcher, Sr.** recently received his M.A. in Religious Education from United Theological

Seminary and Bible College. A graduate of Northeast Louisiana University with B.A in Psychology, Vincent is a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist 3A, with 12 years of service at SCY. Vincent and his wife Stalanda are the parents of three-year old Vincent Jr.

- **Kimberly Peters Craft** has been named one of two 2008 Heroes of Hope for the American Cancer Society's Mid-South Division. She is among 25 cancer survivors from six states to be recognized. Kimberly, one of our LSU counselors, is a cancer survivor with two different types of cancer. She has been selected as a spokesperson for the Louisiana Cancer Society with the title of "Hero of Hope" and has attended seminars in Alabama and Tennessee. She has been featured on KNOE TV in Monroe for her work with caregivers of cancer patients. The HOH designation is an awesome honor. She will be officially recognized at the American Cancer Society's upcoming Relay for Life Leadership Summit.

Tallulah Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **Jena McCattry**, who was promoted to PPOIII.
- **PPOIII Dramian Crockett** and his wife, Shamaya, on the recent birth of their baby girl, Daniya.

- Welcome two new employees: **PPO1 Janet Pierce** and **PPO1 Robert Johnson**.

Thibodaux Regional Office

Congratulations to:

- **Jeff Barrilleaux**, who was promoted to PPO3 and was also selected October Employee of the Month.
- **Robert Duet**, supervisor, who was selected as Knight of the Month by the Knights of Columbus.
- **PPO John Chauvin's** whose last day was Tuesday, October 21, 2008 pending his formal retirement in January 2009.
- **Lorraine Thibodaux**, who was promoted from PPO3 to Supervisor.
- **Tracy Theriot**, who was promoted to PPO3.

The Inside Scoop...of OJJ is published monthly to communicate with and about OJJ staff in offices and facilities throughout the state, about agency activities, happenings and items of interest.

The Inside Scoop...of OJJ is produced by the Central Office Chief of Staff's Team with input from staff statewide.

OJJ Administrative Team

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Prince E. Gray, Jr., Assistant Secretary	Kim B. Mims, Director of Education
Marlyn Goins-McCants, Chief of Staff	Martha Morgan, General Counsel
James Bueche, Undersecretary	Gwendolyn Jones, Human Resources Director
Ellyn (Barbor) Peterson, Acting Chief of Operations	Dawson Andrews, Information Technology Director
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Hammond: Sharon Plamann	Swanson: Linda Harrell
Jetson: Frances Bailey	Tallulah: LaJuana Harrell
Lafayette/Opelousas: Steve Neef	Thibodaux: Allison Lirrette
Lake Charles: Melissa Cross	
Monroe: Gail Wilson	

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Denise Clause – Director of Staff Development
Yolanda Ellis – Director of Volunteer Services
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